



READY FOR COLLEGE: In ninth grade, scholars complete the ACA 122 online college course (College Success). Online general education courses through a local community college begin during the sophomore year of NERSBA scholars. The pathways for “Specialized Coursework at NCSU” and “College Transfer” allow scholars to continue their college careers after graduating from NERSBA.

READY FOR CAREERS: Scholars have the opportunity to take CTE completer courses, along with Supervised Agricultural Experiences and internships. One pathway specifically allows scholars to receive an AA/AS Biotech degree in preparation for a job in biotechnology.

INNOVATIVE STRUCTURES AND PRACTICES: Physics to all ninth grade scholars, humanities courses during the first four years at NERSBA (blending English and History), Core Plus mathematics focusing on investigations, an individual computer for each student, online college courses, NCVPS courses, field experiences through the Vernon James Center & Tidewater Research Station, hands-on agriculture & biotechnology experiences, campus visits to local colleges and universities, and public speaking skills practiced in all classes

PATHWAYS FOR NERSBA STUDENTS:

	Specialized Coursework at NCSU	AA/AS Biotech	College Transfer Pathway
FRESHMEN YEAR	HS courses & ACA 122	HS courses & ACA 122	HS courses & ACA 122
SOPHOMORE YEAR	HS courses & 4-8 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 4-8 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 4 hrs of college credit
JUNIOR YEAR	HS courses & 16 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 16 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 8 hrs of college credit
SENIOR YEAR	HS courses & 15 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 15 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 16 hrs of college credit
SUPER SENIOR YEAR	HS courses & 27 hrs of college credit	Final HS course(s) & 27 hrs of college credit	HS courses & 16 hrs of college credit
Ready for College?	Prerequisites completed, taking specialized courses and ready for continuation at a 4-year institution (NCSU or other)	Associates degree earned, ready for additional college.	Two years of college credit earned, ready for additional college
Ready for Careers?	Field experiences at VJC, SAE projects, internships.	AA/AS, credentials, ready for employment in a Biotech field, field experiences at VJC, SAE projects, internships.	CTE Pathway completed, field experiences at VJC, SAE projects, internships.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS FOR A SUCCESSFUL NERSBA:

COLLEGE LIAISON OR COUNSELOR: A full-time position is needed to enroll NERSBA students in college classes at partner colleges, to communicate with college professors and staff, to advocate for NERSBA on the college campuses, and to monitor student success in college coursework.

FLEXIBILITY TO WORK WITH MULTIPLE LOCAL PARTNERS: NC State University serves as the primary college partner, but with students drawing from five counties, having the flexibility to work with various community colleges as well as NCSU will allow NERSBA to maximize student outcomes while minimizing transportation challenges.

BLENDED AND DIGITAL LEARNING: Technology including 1:1 computer-to-student ratio, online textbooks, and software will make it possible for NERSBA students to access quality courses from school and home

FACILITIES: It is imperative for NERSBA scholars to be on one campus where students are able to collaborate among grade levels and all NERSBA teachers are able to complete cross-curricula plans across grade levels including agriculture and biotechnology themes.